

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1, 2, 6-12, 14, 16, 18-20 and 26-29 will remain pending in the above-identified application. Claims 3-5, 13, 15, 17 and 21-25, which are withdrawn from consideration, have been canceled in order to put the present application in condition for allowance.

It is noted that claim 14 should also be allowed since the rejections thereto were overcome and the claim is not withdrawn from consideration. Applicants respectfully request **rejoinder of claim 14.**

Accordingly, proper consideration of each of the pending claims (i.e., claims 1, 2, 6-12, 14, 16, 18-20 and 26-29) is respectfully requested at present, as is entry of the present amendment.

CONCLUSION

Based upon the amendments and remarks presented herein, the Examiner is respectfully requested to issue a Notice of Allowance clearly indicating that each of the pending claims are allowed under the provisions of Title 35 of the United States Code.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Toyohiko Konno (Reg. No. L0053) at the telephone number below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: SEP 15 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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